

HISTORIC SITES DIVISION

The Historic Sites Division is responsible for operating the agency's 31 historic properties throughout the state. These sites tell the real stories of Texas history in authentic settings. Staff provide expertise in architecture, archeology, collection management, and interpretation.

THC STATE HISTORIC SITES

ACTON • ACTON, HOOD COUNTY visitactontx.com Located in Acton Cemetery, the site marks the final resting place of Elizabeth Patton Crockett, second wife of Davy Crockett.

BARRINGTON PLANTATION • WASHINGTON, WASHINGTON COUNTY visitbarringtonfarm.com
The living history farm of Dr. Anson Jones, the last President of the Republic of Texas. This site is complete with costumed interpreters using 19th century farming practices.

CADDO MOUNDS • ALTO, CHEROKEE COUNTY visitcaddomounds.com This site was a village for Caddo Indians who lived in the region for 500 years beginning circa A.D. 800. It includes earthen ceremonial and burial mounds and an interpretive trail.

CASA NAVARRO • SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY visitcasanavarro.com The site showcases the original 1850s home of Tejano leader José Antonio Navarro, with exhibits about his role as a political leader and advocate for Texas independence.

CONFEDERATE REUNION GROUNDS • MEXIA, LIMESTONE COUNTY visitconfederatereunion grounds.com The site, featuring an 1893 dance pavilion, a Civil War-era cannon, and the scenic Navasota River, commemorates where Civil War veterans gathered to remember their war-time experiences.

EISENHOWER BIRTHPLACE • DENISON, GRAYSON COUNTY visiteisenhowerbirthplace.com Located in the heart of Denison, the site preserves the first home of 34th U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

FANNIN BATTLEGROUND • FANNIN, GOLIAD COUNTRY visitfanninbattleground.com The site memorializes the brave soldiers who fought the Battle of Coleto Creek in 1836 during the Texas War for Independence.

FANTHORP INN • ANDERSON, GRIMES COUNTY visitfanthorpinn.com Built in 1834 by English immigrant,



San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site's museum opened in 2018.

Henry Fanthorp, this restored stagecoach stop and inn provides visitors a realistic look into traveler's experiences in the 1850s.

FORT GRIFFIN • ALBANY, SHACKELFORD COUNTY visitfortgriffin.com Built by the U.S. Army, Fort Griffin served as one in a line of western defensive forts from 1867 to 1881. The site includes remnants of historic structures, a visitors center with exhibits, campgrounds, and the official Texas Longhorn Herd.

FORT LANCASTER • SHEFFIELD, CROCKETT COUNTY visitfortlancaster.com Spanning 82 acres in remote West Texas, the U.S. Army established this fort in 1855 to guard the San Antonio-El Paso Road. The site features fort ruins, a visitors center with exhibits, and walking trails.

FORT MCKAVETT • FORT MCKAVETT, MENARD COUNTY visitfortmckavett.com The 1852 U.S. Army fort housed various infantry and cavalry units, including four regiments of Buffalo Soldiers. Today, it boasts 19 surviving historic structures, exhibits, walking trails, and interpretive tours.

FRENCH LEGATION • AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY visitfrenchlegation.com The French Legation is a historic house built in 1841 for France's representative to Texas. The site is closed for restoration and scheduled to open in 2020.

FULTON MANSION • ROCKPORT, ARANSAS COUNTY visitfultonmansion.com Located in Rockport on Aransas Bay, the elegant 1877 historic home is one of the state's best surviving examples of a grand Victorian villa.

LANDMARK INN • CASTROVILLE, MEDINA COUNTY visitlandmarkinn.com The 1850s inn provides quaint and comfortable historic lodging on the Medina River in the Alsatian community of Castroville.

LEVI JORDAN PLANTATION • BRAZORIA, BRAZORIA COUNTY visitlevijordanplantation.com Scheduled to open in 2023. The site includes an antebellum plantation house and significant archeological remains, including slave quarters and evidence of African American culture.

LIPANTITLAN • MATHIS, SAN PATRICIO COUNTY visitlipantitlan.com Named after the Lipan Apaches that camped nearby, this historic site played a role in the Texas Independence story.

MAGOFFIN HOME • EL PASO, EL PASO COUNTY visitmagoffinhome.com This site explores a multi-cultural border family's experience with American expansion, West Texas settlement, the Civil War, and U.S.-Mexico relations.

MISSION DOLORES • SAN AUGUSTINE, SAN AUGUSTINE COUNTY visitmissiondolores.com The site was a Spanish mission built in 1721. Visitors can explore the site's history museum where interpretive displays tell the mission's story. The property also has a campground, picnic area, and group pavilions. The site is closed for renovations but the RV Park is open.

MONUMENT HILL AND KREISCHE BREWERY • LA GRANGE, FAYETTE COUNTY visitmonumenthill kreishebrewery.com The monument marks the tomb of the men that died during the Dawson Massacre of September 1842 and the ill-fated Mier expedition of November 1842, also known as the Black Bean Incident. In 1849, master stonemason and German immigrant, Heinrich Kreische built his home and in the 1860s one of the first commercial breweries in Texas.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PACIFIC WAR • FREDERICKSBURG, GILLESPIE COUNTY pacificwar museum.org The site is the only institution in the continental United States dedicated exclusively to telling the story of the Pacific Theater battles of World War II.

PORT ISABEL LIGHTHOUSE • PORT ISABEL, CAMERON COUNTY visitportisabellighthouse.com The only Texas lighthouse that is open to the public, this historic structure was built in 1852. Tour the exhibits in the visitors center and reconstructed lighthouse keeper's cottage, then climb up the tower and enjoy the beautiful coastal views.

SABINE PASS BATTLEGROUND • SABINE PASS, JEFFERSON COUNTY visitsabinepassbattleground.com This site tells the story of Confederate Lt. Richard "Dick" Dowling and his 46 men who thwarted an attempted Union attack on Sabine Pass, a port vital to the war effort.

SAM BELL MAXEY HOUSE • PARIS, LAMAR COUNTY visitsambellmaxeyhouse.com This grand structure was the home of Confederate Gen. and U.S. Sen. Sam Bell Maxey. It

houses family furnishings, clothing, and documents, chronicling generations of Maxey family history.

SAM RAYBURN HOUSE MUSEUM • BONHAM, FANNIN COUNTY visitsamrayburnhouse.com Sam Rayburn, long-serving Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives and one of the most powerful and respected politicians of the 20th century, lived here.

SAN FELIPE DE AUSTIN • SAN FELIPE, AUSTIN COUNTY visitsanfelipedeaustin.com The site preserves the location where Stephen F. Austin, the "Father of Texas," established his colony in 1823. A 10,000 square-foot, state-of-art visitors center and museum opened in 2018.

SAN JACINTO BATTLEGROUND • LA PORTE, HARRIS COUNTY visitsanjacintobattleground.com The decisive Battle of San Jacinto resulted in Texas' independence from Mexico in 1836. This 1,200-acre park includes the towering San Jacinto Monument and the San Jacinto Museum of History.

STAR OF THE REPUBLIC MUSEUM • WASHINGTON, WASHINGTON COUNTY starmuseum.com This is the only museum created by the Legislature for the purpose of interpreting the Republic period of Texas history.

STARR FAMILY HOME • MARSHALL, HARRISON COUNTY visitstarrfamilyhome.com This site reflects the 150-year history of the noted Starr family in Texas.

VARNER-HOGG PLANTATION • WEST COLUMBIA, BRAZORIA COUNTY visitvarnerhoggplantation.com Settled in 1824 by one of Texas' first colonizers, the site was later acquired in the late 19th century by Texas Gov. James Hogg.

WASHINGTON-ON-THE-BRAZOS • WASHINGTON, WASHINGTON COUNTY visitwashingtononthebrazos.com The Texas Declaration of Independence was signed here on March 2, 1836. The site contains a reconstruction of Independence Hall, the Star of the Republic Museum, and Barrington Living History Plantation.

HOW TO REACH US

Staff members are available to answer questions and provide preservation assistance. Please contact us at:

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